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Let Speaker Reed Alone!

The Hon. THOMAS BRACKETT REED may be found on every business day at his regular place of business, attending conscientiously to the duties with which he has been charged by the Fifty-fourth Congress. These are multitudinous and exacting enough to drive a nervous man crazy, and even to make a stupid man nervous. In addition to his ordinary functions as presiding officer of the House of Representatives, Mr. REED is compelled by circumstances to handle that hardest of subjects, an unwieldy partisan majority, composed of Republicans of widely different notions and interests, and including a large proportion of new members fresh from grass and frisky as young colts.

This is an enormous job, even for a states man who is not also a candidate. Speaker REED faces it with his accustomed tranquillity of demeanor. Singly responsible for the preservation of Republican harmony in Congress in the year of a Presidential election, and for the maintenance of the interests of the whole party as against fac tional freaks or individual ambitions, he stands there at the desk a rather noble and majestic figure, his upper lip bared to the fury of the storm.

This aspect of Mr. REED's candidacy is overlooked by our esteemed Republican contemporaries. The Speaker's position is in one important respect quite different from that of any of his competitors for the Republican nomination. They are free most of them, to devote their undivided energies to the furtherance of their personal conceptions. They don't have to attend to the common cause. But he is loaded with their interests as well as his own. MORTON and McKinley, and Allison and Quay all depend upon the Hon. THOMAS BRACK ETT REED to hold the House well in hand, to keep all the Republican Congressmen in fine, to suppress the fools and the lightheads, and to wind up the session in a man-Ber conducive to Republican success at the polls next November.

Mr. REED, as Speaker, therefore, is not merely the representative of Mr. REED's canvass for the Presidential nomination. He is also the Trustee of the fortunes and hopes of McKinley, Morton, Quay, Allison, and all the rest, if others there be. If the Speaker should devote too much thought to matters personal to himself, and too little attention to the general welfare of the party, and a crash and catastrophe should occur in his department of Republican politics, of how much value in November would be the nomination obtained in June by Mr. Mor-TON. Mr. McKINLEY, Mr. ALLISON, Mr. QUAY, or any other chap whatsoever ?

Probably the Hon. THOMAS BRACKETT REED foresaw the altruistic responsibilities which his election as Speaker would thrust upon him, and accepted them in his large serene way with his eyes fully open to their inconvenient character, considered from the point of view of mere selfish ambition. If be had been less of a Republican and more of a REED man, we can well understand that he would have allowed some other fellow to wear himself out in the Speaker's chair for the sake of Mr. McKINLEY, Mr. QUAY, Mr. MORTON, and Mr. ALLISON.

Under these circumstances we regard as among things of the past. particularly ungraceful and ungrateful the persistent attempts of the promoters of rival ambitions to force the Speaker to commit himself on this issue or that, in the hope of damaging him as a candidate. And the report that while the Hon. THOMAS BRACKETT REED is at his post in Washington, looking after the interests of his rivals equally with his own, the friends of Major Mc KINLEY, for example, are endeavoring to break into and loot Mr. REED's modest little private collection of Southern delegates, is too hideous to be believed.

Russia and Japan.

It was but the other day, in discuss ing the latest treaty between China and Japan, which embodied the retrocession of Port Arthur to the former power, that we pointed out that it portended the substitution of Russian for Japanese ascendancy in Corea. The irrepressibility of the conflict of Japanese and Russian interests in the Hermit Kingdom has been proved sooner than we expected by the murder of Corean Ministers known to be friendly to Japan, and by the equally significant fact that the King of Corea has sought an asylum in the Russian Legation at Scoul.

The tragedy which took place the other day in the Corean capital is the sequel of the murder of the Queen, who was a woman of strong prejudices and of energetic character, and who had been long recognized as the real head of the Min or anti-Japanese faction. The Japanese Minister at Seoul was accused of complicity in the crime, and although he has been acquitted, the verdict has been commonly regarded as one of not proven rather than of not guilty, because the act was perpetrated by tools of the pro-Japanese party, and was notoriously in its interest. It was only with extreme reluctance that the King, after his wife's death acquiesced in the blackening of her memoron the charge of treasonable practices, and he is believed to have avenged her by authorizing the popular outbreak of which some of his Ministers have now been made the victims. That the King knew himself to be an object of suspicion to the Japanese and to their sympathizers, is clear from his taking refuge in the house of the Russian envoy, which was promptly provided with a guard of Russian sailors and marines.

The gravity of the crisis caused by this incident was forthwith recognized at Tokio, and the sitting of the Japanese Parliament was suspended, in order, doubtless, to leave the Mikado's advisers at liberty to settle the Corean question by negotiation, and avert a trial of strength with Russia, for which at present Japan is ill prepared. The ironclads which during the last year and a half have been collected at Vladivostok, and which in number, strength of armor, and weight of armament constitute a naval force superior to the existing sea power of Japan, are now stationed in an ice-free Chinese harbor at no great distance from Japanese and Corean waters would scarcely be practicable for the Mikado to place any considerable body of soldiers in the Hermit Kingdom, unless his Admirals should first win a naval victory

over the Russians, an event which is, to say the least, improbable. The Czar's Generals on the other hand, could reach Corea by land from Vladivostok, where a large body of troops have been concentrated.

As things are, therefore, Russia would

have Japan at a disadvantage, even if the contest were confined to a duel between the two powers for the possession of the Corean peninsula. This, however, would not be the case. The Czar is sure of the cooperation of China, whatever that may be worth, because the Pekin Government is his debtor for money lent and for the retrocession of Port Arthur, and because it would be glad of a pretext for evading payment of the unliquidated part of the indemnity promised to Japan. But we have not yet summed up the reasons for believing that the Mikado's advisers will be wise to renounce Cores without a fight. The close relations known to exist between the St. Petersburg and Paris Governments render it almost certain that the French fleet in the far East would be arrayed upon the Russian side, should the Japanese commit the blunder of provoking a naval war. The Mikado can hope for no help from Germany, which combined with Russia and France to compel him to evacuate the Liau-Tung peninsula; nor is there any ground for supposing that Great Britain will at this late date abandon her programme of neutrality.

There seems to be nothing for the Mikado to do but to give up the dream of exercising ascendancy in Corea which has been cherished by his subjects for so many centuries, and which was the principal incentive of the recent war with China. The Hermit Kingdom is manifestly destined to undergo a Russian protectorate, like the Khanates of central Asia. Such an outcome of the existing circumstances must be recognized as inevitable by far-seeing men at Tokio, but they also know that the war party, already exasperated by the retrocession of Port Arthur, will be excited to fury by the loss of Corea, and may organize an insurrection dangerous to the chiefs of the present Japanese Government, if not to the Mikado himself

For some time to come the attention of the world is likely to be once more fastened on events in the far East.

An Impossible Condition.

If British public sentiment is adequately represented by the British press, the road is still long to the only possible method of settling the Venezuela dispute with peace, justice, and honor.

We find the London Daily News, an opconent of Lord Salisbury in politics, and a friend to America in days gone by, declaring that "the whole country would, we hope, welcome from Mr. BALFOUR an announcement of general arbitration, with a proviso that, in the event of the award going against us, England should purchase the settled districts." That is an impossible condition, because, on its face, it would permit the extension of British territory in this hemisphere. Yet even Liberal newspapers in England are still clinging to that condition, and the News declares that a vote of the House of Commons for Mr. ATHER-LEY JONES'S motion, which favored arbitration without conditions, would have been

unpatriotic and absurd." This illustrates just how far we still are from a peaceful settlement of this controversy. Newspapers of Salisbury's political faith have long been harping on the same string of keeping the settled districts at all hazards. And what is meant by settlement is to be left to England, which, through the wrongful establishment of any outpost in Venezuelan territory, is to acquire the right to miles and leagues of unpenetrated tropical jungle lying between that outpost and British Guiana. Yet even this is not the main point. No such acquisition can hold good against the Monroe doctrine. British settlement, as the condition of arbitration, is no less impossible than the line of SCHOMBURGE, which is already numbered

What would the London News think of a Venezuelan proposal of arbitration, on condition that, should the award go against her she should buy the districts declared not to be hers? This insisting that the settlement of British subjects on Venezuelan soil shall by hook or crook make that soil British, "in the event of the award going against us," is what clouds the prospects of peace. Yet peace will not be doubtful. if Americans hold together with a determination no less dogged, that settlers or no settlers, England shall not have one inch of land on our continents above what now belongs to her

England's Many Broils.

Two months ago, at the height of our trouble with England over the Venezuelan question, we heard a great deal about Engand's warlike preparations in Canada, from Quebec to Vancouver, and in her islands near the American seaboard, from Newfoundland to the Antilles. We took occasion, at that time, to give some account of these unusual preparations.

Again, one month ago, when England was enraged against Germany, we heard much about her plans for thrashing the shortlegged Kalser. The first flying squadron was got in readiness to drive Germany from the high seas, and then the second flying squadron was got ready to assist the first. There was immense activity at the arsenals, and the naval shipyards, and the London music halls, and the Admiralty, and the offices of the Times, the Telegraph, the

Field, and Punch. Now, once more, when England and the South African Republic are harassing each other, we have news of England's warlike energy. We have learned from a London despatch of the United Press that the War Office has made every preparation to send a corps of 20,000 men to Natal, the upper end of which lies close to the South African Republic of that contumacious Dutch Boer, President S. J. PAUL KRUGER, ordinarily called Oom PAUL.

It may thus be seen that England has been engaged in three debates with other countries this winter, and that she always gets ready for war when any debate assumes an aspect of gravity.

Luckily for her, she has recently closed up two other debates without bloodshed. One of them she held with the Sultan of Turkey, and, in that case, she made a naval "demonstration" very near Constantinople, in the company of Russia, France, and Italy, without firing a gun. The other debate, which came to an end last month, was held with the King of Ashantee, who enjoys human sacrifices, and can keep only 3,333 lawful wives at any one time. His Majesty, who used to wear feathers as he sat on his golden stool, surrendered without a fight, and the British expedition which was sent against him keeps guard over his capital, while he

Besides all these things, England has been, if she is not yet, exchanging notes with Brazil as to the ownership of the island of Trinidad; and there have been rumors that she has made remarks the

Argentina upon questions of finance and spot cash. It is not long since several English cannon were pointed at Nicaragua. While yet those same cannon were loaded, England had thoughts about the war between Japan and China, and also about the probable results of Russian manceuvring in

Corea and Manchuria. England is pretty busy most of the time. She has just fixed up things in Siam to the satisfaction of France, which had spoken to her with emphasis about that country. She is not perfectly happy in Egypt. There must be at least a hundred cases which may give her trouble at any time. She refuses, for example, to accede to Italy's wishes in regard to Abyssinia.

Lord SALISBURY has a rough time all around the world. He may yet have reason to fear more than he fears some other adversaries the unrestrainable GLADSTONE. who is now in the 87th year of his age and full of fire.

Mr. Markham's Views.

We find in the columns of the London Times a long letter from Mr. CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, President of the Royal Geographical Society, purporting to set forth the results of his researches among the maps of that society relating to the Venezuelan boundary line.

The general spirit of Mr. MARRHAM seems to be that of the attorney rather than of the geographer, and akin to that of Mr. ALFRED AUSTIN. He begins by talking of the dishonest character of the Venezuelan claim," and underrates or assails such maps as support that claim, while lauding the contrary maps. A part of what he says of SCHOMBURGE'S performances may give a clue to the value of his work:

"He explored the Waimi and Barima, and d lineated a boundary by which a large extent of Brilish territory, comprising the whole valley of the Venezuelans had commenced their lawless encroach-ments into British territory, and the line was designed to satisfy them and to sedure a good understanding o facility them and to the facilities attempt.
"The line was drawn on a just and well-defin

principle, conceding to Venezuela the Yuruari val-ley, which had been lawlessly occupied by the Ven-exuelans, and retaining the territory which had never been occupied by Spaniards or Venezuelans, and to which they have no right.

cession of British territory shows that nothing could have been further from the thoughts of English statesmen than an infringement of the Mon-

There is more to this effect, but not a syllable on the point of consequence, that no such ex parte line drawn in a boundary dispute, even if it seeks to "satisfy" Venezuela, can bind the latter or have any standing in international law.

The sapient general conclusion of Mr. MARKHAM is also worth quoting: "It will have been seen, from the evidence of mans that Spain had no claim to British Guiana, that Vener-ueia, therefore, inherits no claim, and that even if the territory was adjudged not to belong to Great Britain

If this is a specimen of the British evidence to be laid before the High Commission, we fear that body will not be greatly aided from British sources in its duties.

From Jurisprudence to Arithmetic. Jurist JOHN RAINES of Canandaigua-bythe-Lake is a statesman of bright and burnished intellect, a profound philosopher, a far-seeing statesman, a daring political guide, and a courageous chieftain. Where he leads, the Republican party of New York follows-if it happens to be going that way. Mr. RAINES has recently issued a bulletin designed to show some of the novelties of what may be called Canandaigua arithmetic, involving a summary suspension of some of the fundamental laws of the science of numbers, whereby geometry gets an undercut, algebra a body blow, and the ordinary rules of computation a veritable knock-down smash. The RAINES bulletin refers to the revenues which would come from the adoption of the RAINES excise bill, so-called, and this learned statesman, whose knowledge of the law he allows no man to dispute, establishes one or two new opositions in arithmetic.

licenses imposed in New York go where they belong, to the city treasury and to hereafter and the other half to the State Government in Albany. Naturally, one might infer, this subdivision of revenues would be an injury to the city of New York and a benefit to the rural districts, a view of the case which is further enforced by the fact that the New Yorkers in Albany and here are opposing the bill, while the representatives of country districts in Albany are favoring it. But RAINES says in the bulletin which he has issued that if the revenue from liquor licenses in New York be divided in two, the half under the terms of his bill would be greater than the present sum total under the regulations established by the bill now in force, which was passed by a Democratic Legislature and signed by a Democratic Governor in 1892. RAINES avers that by raising the license fee from \$250 per year, the present rate, to \$800 there will be an automatic reduction in the number of saloons of 40 per cent. But although the number of saloons will be thus reduced, the increase of the license fee will add enough to make the total revenue larger than heretofore, even though the city of New York is compelled to divide one half of this revenue with the fiscal represen tatives in Albany of Liberty Corners, Bathby-the-Lake, Half Moon, Stillwater, White Creek Junction, Schroeppel, Smyrna Turnpike, and Bug's Bend. He figures as follows: In New York 6,000 saloons now pay \$950. \$1,000,000 A deduction of 40 per cent. in the number

of saloons would leave 3,600 at \$800 9,880,000 One-half for rural and interior counties 1.440,000

Loss to New York city...... 860,000 But RAINES declares that as the city of New York pays, "as we are told over and over again," 45 per cent. of the State taxes, why, obviously enough, New York would get back 45 per cent. of its quota of appropriation to the general fund in Albany. It would not! Money sent from this city to Albany which passes officially or semi-officially through the hands of rural Republican legislators never comes back. It is an ebb tide to which there is no flow. The rural legislators always find uses for such money, and they rigidly prevent its returning to the public treasury in New York. If any misguided citizen of this town, deluded by RAINES's arithmetic, should imagine that any share of the rural grab of New York city's excise revenues will come back, like bread upon the waters, after many days, his credulous confidence will be soon shaken and his hopes blasted. No! New York city would lose, and lose heavily, if compelled to divide its excise revenues with Albany; and the computations of RAINES do not disguise this fact. "Citizens of New York should also remember," says the friend of Jurisprudence and of revolutionized Arithmetic, "that this is not money taken from the city treasury, for without

Such is the argument of RAINES. We do not know what warrant RAINES

may have for determining that the adoption of his excise bill would reduce by 40 per cent, the number of licensed liquor saloons in New York. When the BROOKS high license law was adopted in Pennsylvania there were 5,000 saloons in Philadelphia, and when the law had gone into operation the number was reduced to 1,500, a much more radical decrease than the upset figure of 40 per cent. stated by RAINES. But concurrently with this decrease in the number of licensed saloons, there was an increase in Philadelphia of unlicensed saloons, or speak-easies." which now number, it is computed, some 1,500 of all grades. Speak-easies, of course, pay no li cense, high or low, to the city treasury of Philadelphia or the State treasury in Harrisburg, and it does not seem unreasonable to infer that the adoption of the RAINES bill here, like the BROOKS bill in Philadelphia, will be a signal for the opening of speak-easies in New York, especially in view of the fact that the present wine and ale saloons, which number about 500 and pay \$75 a year for the privilege of selling beer and light wines only, are to be charged \$800 a year by the ruthless RAINES, who has probably never been on one of the side streets of New York, some of which bear a close resemblance to Main street in Canandaigua, on which RAINES walks when at home, followed by a crowd of farmers, hucksters, and small boys. One trouble with RAINES is that he knows too much to be in Albany. He ought to be in Washington.

The End of the Seals.

The conclusion said practically to have been reached by the Senate Foreign Committee to report favorably the bill relating to the fur seals makes its passage not improbable. Last year a similar bill passed the House under a two-thirds vote suspending the rules for the purpose, but in the Senate no action was taken upon it, perhaps with a view of trying an appeal to England or seal protection. That appeal, made by Mr. GRESHAM, proved fruitless.

The pending bill provides for asking Great Britain, Russia, and Japan to join us in a commission to arrange for giving the fur seals better protection, and meanwhile to agree to a modus vivendi for this year's season, and perhaps longer. If satisfactory arrangements are not made before May next, the Secretary of the Treasury is au thorized to kill all the seals that come to he Pribylov Islands this year, and to sell their skins to the best advantage.

Thus a measure which starts out with the surpose of preserving these animals ends with a provision for exterminating them. But what else has England left us to do! Against our protests she succeeded in getting from the Paris tribunal liberty to carry on pelagic sealing in Behring Sea beyond a distance of sixty miles from the breeding islands. The result is, as Secretary CAR LISLE says, that last year 44,169 seals were taken in that sea alone, in addition to the numbers caught in the North Pacific and to the great number killed in the water and not recovered. This surpasses all records; and yet our catch on the islands, being limited to male seals of a certain age, fell to 15,000 last season, whereas it used to be 100,000 in days when pelagic sealing did not reach one-tenth that number, both in the North Pacific and Behring Sea, on the shores of Asia and America combined.

We will cite just one fact from many in Secretary CARLISLE's report:

"The most conclusive evidence of the faral result on the seal herd of pelagic scaling in Behring Sea, where, according to official returns, over 73 per cent. of the American and 56 per cent, of the British Ca seal pups which had died of starvation, their mothers having been killed at sea by pelagic scalers while search of food beyond the sixty-mile zone."

The pending bill, therefore, provides, in case a final appeal to England is unsuccessful, for killing the seals at once instead of waiting until they perish no less At the present time, as for many years | der the present Paris rules; for, as Mr. CARpast, the net revenues arising from liquor LISLE concludes, "under their operation, the fur seals of the American herd will be exterminated commercially within a very local objects and institutions. Under the few years." It would certainly be not less RAINES excise bill, so-called, one half of the | merciful than exterminating them, as the pesum of such revenues is to go to the city lagic scalers are doing, by killing the mother seals and leaving over 20,000 of the young to die of starvation in a single year. We could also compensate ourselves, as far as is now possible, for heavy patrolling and other expenses.

Our experience in this matter has been thus far not unlike that of the Guiana boundary dispute. We have made courteous appeals in vain; the alternative presented in the pending bill will perhaps bring England to terms, in view of the threatened destruction both of the Dominion's industry in catching seals and London's industry in preparing the skins for market. If not, the sooner an end is put to this miserable business perhaps the better.

The Lord Chief Justice and the Spillane Eye Case.

When Sir CHARLES RUSSELL, the distin guished English advocate, became Baron RUSSELL of Killowen and Lord Chief Justice of England, there was naturally a good deal of interest on the part of the bar and the public to see whether the successful lawyer would be equally successful as a Judge. He has not yet been on the bench long enough to settle that question. A case that recently came before him, however, in London, and which had some peculiar features, serves to indicate i: an interesting way some of the judicial characteristics of the successor of Lord COLERIDGE.

The suit was an action to recover damager for personal injuries alleged to have been caused by the negligence of the defendants. The plaintiff was a widow named SPILLANE, who carried on a fruit business in the Com mercial Road. The defendants, John Atkin & Sons, were contractors. In November, 1894, they were putting down a gas main in the street opposite the shop of the plaintiff Mrs. SPILLANE testified that while the servants of the defendants were at work there with pickaxes, a stone came flying through the front of her shop and struck her in the left eye, inflicting injuries which temporarily impaired her vision, and caused a tremor of the arm, which, according to some of the medical testimony, would eventually result in permanent paralysis.

Strangely enough, however, this was not the first accident of the kind that had happened to Mrs. SPILLANE. She was standing in the same place eight years before, in August, 1886. The men of JOHN AIRD & Sons were then at work in the same place, doing the same thing. A stone flew from one of their pickaxes and struck Mrs. SPILLANE in the same eye, and the contractors paid her one hundred and twenty-five pounds sterling by way of compensation.

Here was a queer coincidence, indeed. It led the defendants to suspect and to suggest that the plaintiff's claim was largely if not wholly fraudulent, and that she had really

this bill it would remain just where it is not suffered any serious injury on either occasion. They called one of the ophthalmit surgeons of the London Hospital, and another medical man, who had examined the plaintiff, who expressed the opinion that there was a natural want of symmetry between the plaintiff's eyes of which she was endeavoring to take advantage. There was also evidence tending to prove that the

tremor of the arm was shammed. Now, when the Lord Chief Justice came to charge the jury on the case thus developed, he took the side of the plaintiff in a manner that would be regarded by most American lawyers as equivalent to a direct tion to find a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. To illustrate the extent to which he indicated his own view of the credibility of the witnesses and his idea of the conclusions which the jury ought to reach, we will give the charge as reported in the London Times, noting in italics those portions in which the Lord Chief Justice most manifestly acted the part of the thirteenth juryman: "The Lord Chief Justice, addressing the jury, said

that it was a serious case. The defendants had thought it right to bring what amounted to a charge of con-spiracy against a number of persons, including the

plaintiff and her family, Dr. HAMILTON, and several

friends. It was said that she had taken advantage of the fact that an accident happened in 1886 to vamp up a case in 1894. It was even questioned whether she received any blow at all in 1894. It was suggested that, even if there was an accident, it did no ap-preciable injury, and that the present signs, if any, vere to be attributed not to November, 1894, but to August, 1886. Finally, the serious view was advanced by a professional man of some position that this lady had ventured to appear before the jury, shamming a remor of the right side, deliberately to impose upon hem. When charges of that sort were brought, it wa very important to consider who were the people against whom they were made. Respectable people who had carried on a respectable business in the same house for many years, were not the class among whom these con-spiracies arose, nor was any suggestion made with regard to Dr. HAMILTON which could lead them to regard him otherwise than as a credible witness. For ver twenty years the plaintiff had carried on fruiterer's business, first with her husband, and, since he died, five years ago, with the assistance of her family. One daughter who had given evidence wa the wife of a most respectable gentles in the Royal Navy, and occupied an official position under the Metropolitan Asylums Board. A son who had given evidence was in a business similar to her own, which he carried on at Southend and in Londo Was there anything to suggest that their antecedents were those of people who could be expected to enter into an odious conspiracy? It was true that there was a similar accident in 1886, and that compensation was obtained, and it was a remarkable coincidence that the plaintiff should have suffered the same injury again in 1894. But they must seriously ask themselves whether it was not that very coincidence which had prejudiced the minds of the defendants and of their medical men. It was clear that when Mr. Eve and Dr. Davies examined th plaintiff they had already been told the story, and had been told that there was something exceedingly suspleious in the circumstances. That was not the way in which the opinions of experts should be obtain His Lordship then read the evidence."

No wonder the jury promptly gave the plaintiff a verdict for £150.

In the Times of yesterday there were two criticisms of exceptional interest upon the Heine memorial, from two of the foremost American artists, Mr. Daniel. C. FRENCH, the sculptor, and Mr. Will H. Low, the painter, The memorial should not be accepted," said Mr. FRENCH. "The Commission who passed judgment upon it are men of education and artistic training. I hope the Aldermen will not fly in the face of public opinion and accept an unworthy work of this character." "The verdict of the National Sculpture Society should be accepted," said Mr. Low. "It is not creditable to the promoters of this memorial to try to get through the back door a work which has been refused admittance through the front door."

Unfortunately, it seems beyond the power of the promoters of this memorial to apprehend a point of this delicacy. One of their own members, with their approval, is even using his political office to help. The explanation of this irregular persistence, as given by one of their own number, is that they have subscribed money to buy the fountain, and if it isn't put up in New York their money will be practically lost. Instead of HEINE, who might be commemorated in Baltimore as well as in New York, the impelling force seems to be the pocket. It is one of the queerest episodes in our

The Hon, RUSSELL ALEXANDER ALGER was found in Charlestown, back to back with Bunker Hill Monument for the purpose of satis-fying himself which was the taller. He fixed blinked genially back. With the other eye he came as near winking as it is decorous for a great man to come, and remarked to the startled reporter, "I am out of it. Hundreds of my friends have written to me and entreated me to stand, but I don't want any part of it." Surely this eminent Wolverine owes a duty to others as well as to himself. What is to become of the biography business if he decides not to be a candidate for the Republican nomination. What will the poor raphers do, thrown helpless upon the world in the height of the campaign biography season? What will the country do if its pulse beats are not to be quickened by reading of the glorious deeds of RUSSELL ALEXANDER ALGER, and how he carried through the war single-handed What will the Southern delegates do with nobody left to love them? What will Gen. ALGER do himself? He must, he will reconsider and reverse the rash decision. A Republican Convention without ALGER men would be like ALGER without a corps of biographers and poets to celebrate him.

At length civil service reform has begun to do serious work for the oysters in Chesapeake Bay. The great issue between the Democrats and Republicans, plus the Mugwumps in Maryland last fall was, "Shall the State Oyster Beds Be Made Non-Partisan?" The Republicans and Mugwumps won, but they have been unpardonably remiss in introducing oyster reform. A bill for that purpose is now before the State Senate, and a similar bill for the benefit of the fish in the Potomac River has been introduced into the House of Delegates. It seems almost incredible that any man should consent to catch fish or rake up oysters before examining them. Henceforth, if the reformers in Maryland are not cheated of their purpose, fish and oysters and all persons engaged in inspecting, catching, or eating the same will have to pass a civil service examination. The victory in Maryland is almost

Now the whole face of America is changed. -Ninneapolis Times. The whole face of America may be changed, but the cheek of the Hon. JOSEPH BENSON FORAKER remains the same.

divers counties at the primary elections for Senator. The world is tolerably well provided with Joneses, but two Joneses in particular are important. Arkansaw Jones is one. Nevada JONES is the other. Both whirl over the floor of the Senate chamber and the country on silver wheels without brakes. There is a tacit arrangement between the two Joneses. When Nevada JONES is spinning through the chamber, Arkansaw Jones thinks silver in a committee room. When it comes to be Arkansaw Jones's time for talking silver, Nevada Jones retires to committee room and welters in argentine agitation. So the two JONESES divide the day and night; nor does the hand of timegrip any second wherein one is not spouting silver and the other thinking silver.

The Hon. MARCUS ANTONIUS HANNA, returning from Chicago bringing sheaves of enthusiasm and anecdotes with him, told the awe-struck scions of the Western Reserve that Major McKinley's Chicago speech on Lin-COLN's birthday " fairly took the delegates off their feet." It was a good speech and sur-charged with power, and doubtless the centrifugal rushing effect is not exaggerated by the faithful HANNA. Yet in some respects his own moving appeals to the doubtful to

elect McKinley delegates are more elequent than his principal's speeches, if not as severe in outline. MARK ANTONY HANNA has been known to convert a hardene ALLISON man into a raging McKINLEY man in fifteen minutes, with the expenditure of a little breath and two or three of the convert's coat buttons. He has changed a REED howler into a McKinley shricker in twenty-five minutes, and at a recent convention in Bellefontaine he surpassed Major McErstry's Chicago record by actually talking the feet off the delegates.

Men of mark are welcome, no matter from what camp they come. The Populist statesman who is reaching out for the Populist nomination for Lieutenant-Governor of Kansas has wor and proudly wears the name of "The Bald Hornet of Neosho." Advance, Fame, and sound the tucket. Give The Bald Eagle of the Neosho a triumphant blast.

The Hon, TUNEFUL CANTOR PLATT of the Owego Glee Club has ordered one hundred thousand phonographs, and is now busy day and night filling the cylinders of the same with patriotic Republican and Monton songs. It was noticed at the Progress dinner-concert other night that Mr. PLATT's voice has exactly the rare and peculiar pitch indispensable to the man that pours melody into phonograph cylinders. There are only men in the country who have this dif-ficult pitch and modulation; and the Hon. TREMOLO CANTABILE PLATT IS two of them. A voice of wonder and rarity, his; and soon a hundred thousand phonographs will be echoing it and hurrahing for Governor Monros. 'A man with a voice like that ought never to who prides himself on his own trills and is just a little jealous of the elder singer, not a better; "if I had Mr. PLATT's voice I would

THE STATE OPTICAL SOCIETY. Aims of Those Interested in Securing Its

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As I have been misquoted in the public press, without suitable reparation having been made, I take the liberty of requesting you to publish the following outline of the advantages which will accrue to the public and opticians by an act now before the Legislature incorporating the Optical Society of the State of New York, to wit:

First-It will lawfully sustain the optician's traditional right to adapt glasses to the sight. Second-It will protect the public against mis representations on the part of the optician as to his abilities and lawful functions. Third-It will secure a higher scientific and

practical proficiency on the part of the optician, which is undoubtedly for the public weifure. To attain these objects the society seeks to be

vested with the power to qualify, by a proper examination, all those men who desire to become opticians after the passage of the act. All opticians now engaged in business as principals, and their appointed representatives at their respective places of business, will not be required to pass an examination, but will receive certificates entitling them to continue their practice as heretofore, provided they shall have recorded their names and addresses with the society, not later than ninety days after the passage of the act. By such means the society will have a record of all opticians who now have the unrestrained right to practise in the State of New York. Beginning with this stage, the society proposes that all men hereafter wishing to become opticians for their own account must submit to and pass an examination by the Board of Examiners, which shall be composed of members nominated by the society, but under the jurisdiction of the State.

Every optician in good standing will be eligiand their appointed representatives at their Every optician in good standing will be eligible to membership in the society. It is consequently evident that every optician will have as much voice in directing the affairs of the society as he has in exercising his prerogatives as a citizen under the Constitution of the United States.

youd the censure of honest men who are interested in the optician and his work. Yours re-NEW YORK, Feb. 17, 1896.

The Greek and Roman Catholic Churches,

From the Outlook.
We have received from the translator, John Gennedius, formerly Minister from Greece to the United States, a copy in English of the reply of the "Holy Catholic and Apostolic Ortho-dox Church of the East"—that is, the Greek Church-to the encyclical of Pope Leo XIII. on reunion. The gist of this reply is that the Greek Church is ready to receive proposals of reunion based on the Gospels and the decrees of the seven holy Ecumenical Councils: that this can be done only provided "the Bishop of Rome diverse innovations which, contrary to the Gospel, have been stealthly introduced into the Church;" that, in particular, the Church must abandon the doctrine that the Holy Ghost proceedeth from the Father and the Son, must use leavened instead of unleavened bread, trine immersion in lieu of sprinkling, permit the laity to partake of the sacred cup, abandon the supremacy of the Bishop of Rome, and crase from its creed the novel dogma of the immaculate

To the Editor of The Sus-Sir: If Dr. Nansen failed to satisfy himself of the authenticity and genuine character of the alleged Jeannette relies. it was not because he had not been urged to take advan-tage of trustworthy evidence. Several months before he started on his expedition he published in the Forum a paper setting forth his ideas. In the course of events the manuscript came into my hands and I was se much impressed with his statement concerning the memorandum found on the Greeniand shore that I at once communicated with him in reference to the matter. This metaorandum was alloged to be in Lieut. De Long's handwriting. I immediately submitted the matter to a member of Lieut. De Long's family who was greatly interested in the discovery, and, having the Journal of the expedition, could readily have decided whether or not the handwriting was that of the Jeannette's communder. Although my letter was backed up by the editor of the brane, it brought no reply. The identity of the other relies might easily have misled the beat qualified experts. The question of the memorandum would have quickly decided whether or not they were gaunine. No one no qualified with the Narisen for a momentum qualities much many thing like duplicate days and in nonemark of the producer may result in success. The fact that he ms been reported from two whely require points leads to the bedeef that he may be safe and sound. His indontable place deserves we henway, F. R. G. S. MOUNT VERSON Feb. 18.

Defend the Consts.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-Sir: I see that District No. 1 of the Socialist National Trade and Labor Alliance are opposed to the proposed increase of our army and navy. I would like to know what these people mean. Are they Americans? If they are they don't show it. They think our army is too much of a protector to the American capitalists. Of course, in protector to the American capitalists. Of course, in case of an uprising between capital and labor, our army would nelp the capitalists to a certain extent, but even so, we cannot help that. It is for our nation's interests that we have got those things. What do our Socialist friends think we are going to protect our American interests in foreign countries with? Will our hands protect these foreign countries with? Will our hands protect these foliags, we must have them, and will have them if the American people have anything to say about it.

Such protests are enough to make an American's blood both. Let us hope we will not hear any more protests against such movements as this. In times of peace prepare for war.

NEW HAMES, Feb. 18.

Author of "The Rooster on the Pence," To the Entrop of The Sex-Sec. The verse quoted by Mr. T. C. Platt at the Morton dinner, and printed In your issue of this date, is not correctly quoted. It should read as follows:

"The resister tumped upon the fence, His slander it was rising. And I'll be blowed if what he crowed Warn't Clay and Freiinghuysen." It was written by Joseph Boughton, a young lawyer in the office of Daniel S. Dickinson of Binghamton, in 1440. W. H. B. BROOKLYS, Feb. 18.

THE STRUGGLE AT OTTAWA. Prospect That the Government Will Be

Defented on the School Bill. OTTAWA, Feb. 17.-There is much speculation as to where the Conservative party, with its present majority of 44, will stand when the remediat bill, now before Parliament, by which it is proposed to restore Roman Catholic schools in Manitobe, comes up for discussion, The Hon. J. A. Oulmet, Minister of Public Works, said to-night that he was sure the Government would not lose ten of its supporters when the division was taken. Conservative members who oppose the bill estimate that at least twenty-five will vote against the Government, which, assuming that the Liberals all vote solid against the measure, would meas the defeat of the administration.

Mr. Laurier, the Liberal leader, is a Roman Catholic, and he would find it difficult to op-

the defeat of the administration.

Mr. Laurler, the Liberal leader, is a Roman Catholic, and he would find it difficult to oppose the bill, which has for its object the restoration of separate schools. Yet he says that he will oppose any legislation until the facts have been investigated. He will move an amendment to the bill requesting that a Commission be at once appointed to take evidence and investigate the whole school question.

The necessity for some such action is made pparent in the inability of the Government here to devise any means by which any portion of the provincial school grant can be secured for the Catholic separate schools of Manitoba.

The bill now before Parliament practically leaves the matter in the lands of the Legislature of Manitoba. The bill means nothing, as it provides no machinery for carrying it into effect, beyond the appointment of a School Board, in event of the Manitoba Government refusing to act, A member of the Cabinet told The Sun reporter to-day that in drafting the remedial bill the Government at Ottawa.

Mr. E. Clarke Wallace, who retired from the Cabinet in December on account of the determination of Sir Mackenzie Bowell to introduce the remedial bill, says that if the Liberals stand solid against the Government there is so doubt that the Government will be defeated. He is Grand Sovereign Master of the Orange order in Canada, and is backed up by nearly the whole order in his opposition to the bill.

E. MeNeil, who moved the loyalty resolution in Parliament a few days ago, says that, although in every other respect a strong Conservative, he cannot say he will vote for remedial legislation, which means an interference on the part of the Federal Government with provincial rights.

As far as it is possible to estimate the strength of the two parties, the Government with provincial rights.

As for an interference of the Government with provincial rights.

The Government are premier or would be call upon Mr. Laurier to form a Government with provincial rights.

The Governmen

estimates being carried through if the

THE BELATED FREEBOOTER.

The Principal Trouble with England's Chief Englishman in South Africa.

From the Morning Oregonian. There is only one trouble with the Hon. Cecil Rhodes. He was born at least a century too ate. The world has grown too civilized to permit free exercise of talents such as his. Under Elizabeth or the elder Pitt he would have been a hero. Under Victoria it is a nice question whether he is not a criminal.

Rhodes is of the type of men who laid the A citizen under the Constitution of the United States.

In presenting the bill before the Legislature it was essential to introduce a clause limiting the smouth which should be charged for certificates, but which limitation will be discretionary with the Legislature to allow. Within the legislature to allow with the society swith the society are the public and themselves. The officers of the promoters of the proposed plan should alone to annex, and mines of gold and precious their own profit. In the time of Elizabeth, when England had no colonies, and their own profit. In the time of Elizabeth, when England had no colonies, and their own profit in the state of the word in the seventeenth and extended to annex, and mi foundations of the British empire in the six-

lege never equalied by Christian peoples, comparable only to the ravages of Norsemen first and Saraceos afterward in the rich and enfecthed countries of the Mediterranean. Landing under shelter of trading and colonizing charters, like that of lithodes, the British pirates became land banditti and harried and plundered the rich and feeble races of India as they had not been harried and plundered since Tameriane. Clive and Hastings were mere bandits, as Hawkins and Drake were mere pirates, but they live as heroes in the Valhalla of British history.

The trial of Hastings was a mere comedy of party politics, and the main accusation against him was that he kept too much of the swag for himself. Nothing illustrates the change in the times so well as the fact that no foreign nation protested against the looting of India, The only stir it made grew out of quarrels of the robbers themselves over the spoils.

Cecil Rhodes has reason to wish he lived in those times, when his attempt to imitate Clive and Hastings and found a great English empire in South Africa brings all the world buzzing about his ears and all the powers threatening about the ears of his masters as home. Times have indeed changed when an enterprising Englishman cannot enlist regiments to seize lands and gold mines, slaughter feebler colonists, and annex territories without being denounced by civilization and threatened by Europe. Rhodes naturally feels out of place in a generation which would have hanged Drake at the yard arm and shot Clive like Maximilian.

The plans of this belated freebooter to found a British empire in South Africa have been defeated by the shrewdness and valor of his chief victims, the Boers of the Transvaal, by the rout of Jameson's raiders, and the suppression of the Johannesburg uprising. Had Rhodes succeeded, his acts would have been added to the gallery of national heroes, with the other pirates and bandits who have built no the empire of Great Britain. But the failure of a servet agent is a crime to be punished by disavowal.

England's Eye on Hawatt.

Leon the San Francisco Chronicle. Hoxonete, Feb. 1.-John Bull's fingers are itching to entwine themselves about these Islands. You orrespondent has it from a member of the British olony, who stands high in its most exclusive councils, that this is so. My informant is a man of means and of long residence in Hawaii. He assures me that eighteen months ago England cared not a rap for these islands. Now she stands read; to acquire them by any possible means.

The change wrought in the spirit of her dreams is caused by the altered situation in the East, the new importance of Japan, the advancement and confidence of Russia, the possibility of a strong reform Government for China. The recent entanglement mainsprings to the covetousness. The great difficulty of constructing an all lititish cable across the Pa-cific is another reason, while strictly business considerations are not entirely forgotten. It is morally certain that Great Britain would to day seize the is ands on the lustant were half an opportunity pre sented.

Statements similar to this have been used before in sustaining argument for annexation. It is me longer the cry of wolf.

From the Indianapolis Journal, The professor was lying on the sidewalk, his face wearing its usual thoughtful expression and his feet slowly moving in circles. Itis bicycle lay about five yards away. The friend who espled him ran to his assisted the old gentleman to his feet.

The professor booked about him for a moment. the curb and fallen off." I must have run into

The New Version From the Atlanta Constitution He good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever, Suun bloomers, doesn't matter how they look And so make life, that leads to the forevea. One grand cook book!